

Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the [Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance](#) prior to completing this form

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM)
(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME <i>State the legal name of the FAC</i>
Southwest Resource Advisory Council
(2) AUTHORITY <i>Identify the authority for establishing the FAC</i>
The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. 2.
(3) MISSION/FUNCTION <i>Describe the mission/function of the FAC</i>
The Southwest Resource Advisory Council (RAC) provides advice to the Secretary of the Interior concerning problems relating to land use planning and of the management of the public lands located within the BLM's Southwest Colorado District. Membership of the Southwest RAC is prescribed in the BLM's advisory committee regulations (43 CFR 1784).
(4) POINTS OF VIEW <i>Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,</i> <i>(a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered;</i> <i>(b) consider identifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and</i> <i>(c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members</i>
(A) The Southwest RAC is comprised of 15 members that represent three categories (commodity interests, non-commodity interests, and public interest). These categories are outlined in BLM's advisory committee regulations (43 CFR 1784). (B) The candidates are divided evenly among the three categories. (C) The Southwest RAC has no Special Government Employees. All members are Representatives because they represent their constituent groups.
(5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS <i>List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC</i>
According to FLPMA, "At least one member of each council shall be an elected official of general purpose government serving the people of such area."
(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS <i>Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:</i> <i>(a) describe the process</i> <i>(b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)</i> <i>(c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and</i> <i>(d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable</i>

(A) In order to obtain members, the BLM announces a 45-day open call for nominations period in the Federal Register. During the open period, the Southwest Colorado District Office sends a news release to all major media outlets throughout the state to solicit nominations. The Governor of Colorado is also consulted. The call for nominations is also announced on the BLM-Colorado Web site. The BLM also advertises vacancies on social media sites such as Facebook and YouTube.

(B) The BLM-Colorado State Director along with district managers and field managers, selects the nominees. This is then forwarded to the BLM Director for concurrence. Once the BLM Director approves the nominees, it is sent to the Department of the Interior (DOI) and DOI White House Liaison for vetting and approval.

(C) According to 43 CFR 1784, "A vacancy occurring by reason of removal, resignation, death, or departure from elected office shall be filled for the balance of the vacating member's term using the same method by which the original appointment was made."

(D) Southwest RAC members serve 3-year terms, and can be re-nominated to serve additional 3-year terms.

(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

Subcommittees are not subject to FACA because they are not providing advice directly to a Federal Officer of the Department of the Interior. All advice or work products go directly to the parent Committee for review, consideration and deliberation at a FAC meeting before being submitted to the Department of the Interior through the DFO.

(8) OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

None

(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated

04/15/2011